

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 06825 011537Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----031312 011541Z /42

O 011321Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3835

S E C R E T TEHRAN 6825

NODIS

FOR ACTING SECRETARY FROM SULLIVAN

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, US

SUBJ: AUDIENCE WITH SHAH RE AWACS

REF: (A) STATE 177843, (B) STATE 179484

1. AS INSTRUCTED REFTELS, I SPENT NINETY MINUTES WITH THE SHAH AT RAMSAR ON THE CASPIAN AFTERNOON AUGUST 1 TO EXPLAIN STATE OF PLAY ON AWACS CASE AND TO URGE HIM TO RECONSIDER HIS DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE AWACS LETTER OF INTENT. ALTHOUGH HE EXPRESSED PLENTIFUL MISGIVINGS, HE FINALLY AGREED NOT RPT NOT TO WITHDRAW THE LETTER OF INTENT AND TO HAVE HIS PEOPLE WORK OUT NEW CONDITIONS FOR AN LOA WHICH WOULD REFLECT THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE U.S. EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND THE CONGRESS.

2. I FOUND THE SHAH IN A VERY SOMBER MOOD. HE SAID HE FELT HE WAS AT "A TURNING POINT" AND HAD TO STUDY THE WHOLE QUESTION OF HIS FUTURE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. IN HIS JUDGMENT, THE ISSUES AT STAKE WERE FAR GREATER THAN THE AWACS. THEY INVOLVED THE WHOLE QUALITY OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HE SAID HE WAS AMAZED BY SOME OF THE THINGS HE HAD READ FROM TESTIMONY IN THE HEARINGS, FROM COMMENTS BY SENATORS AND IN NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS. HE FELT IRAN WAS CONSIDERED AS A
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 06825 011537Z

CHOLERA CASE WHICH HAD TO BE SHUNNED AND AVOIDED.

3. AFTER I HAD SOOTHED HIM RE THESE MATTERS AND LEFT WITH HIM A COPY OF SECRETARY VANCE'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, HE THEN TURNED TO THE SIX POINTS IN THE HUMPHREY LETTER. HE HAD THEM CLEARLY IN MIND AND, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO NOTES, TICKED OFF THOSE WHICH HE

CONSIDERED "UNACCEPTABLE", AS HE UNDERSTOOD THEM.

4. AGAIN, I REVIEWED THE INTERPRETATIONS WHICH WE PLACED UPON THEM AND SAID WE WOULD BE WILLING TO WORK OUT WITH HIS PEOPLE THE SORT OF CHANGES WHICH MIGHT HAVE TO BE MADE IN THE LOA TO MEET THE CONDITIONS. I SUGGESTED THAT I WOULD BE PREPARED TO ASK ERICH VON MARBOD TO COME TO TEHRAN TO WORK THESE OUT WITH GENERAL TOUFANIAN.

5. AFTER SOME MORE SPARRING, DURING WHICH THE SHAH TOLD ME THAT HE HAD ASKED THE BRITISH TO DISCUSS THE SALE OF NIMROD, HE FINALLY AGREED ON TWO POINTS:

(A) HE WOULD HAVE TOUFANIAN REVISE THE MESSAGE ON THE LETTER OF INTENT. THE REVISION WOULD PROBABLY SAY THAT THE LETTER WOULD BE WITHDRAWN IF THE CONDITIONS OF SALE SHOULD PROVE TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TO IRAN.

(B) HE WOULD AGREE TO HAVE VON MARBOD COME TO IRAN TO WORK OUT AN AGREED FORMULA FOR A NEW LOA WHICH WOULD REFLECT THE NEW CONDITIONS OF SALE. IF THESE ARE ACCEPTABLE, THE ACTION COULD CONTINUE.

6. IN AGREEING TO THIS COURSE, THE SHAH STRESSED THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE SORT OF DEROGATION TO THE DIGNITY OF IRAN WHICH WAS INHERENT IN THE ORIGINAL HEARINGS. HE ASKED FOR SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE HANDLED "WITH DIGNITY". I READ HIM EXTRACTS FROM REF B AND STRESSED THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TEHRAN 06825 011537Z

POSITIVE POSITION OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY. THE SHAH SETTLED THE MATTER AT THIS POINT AND WE WENT ON TO OTHER SUBJECTS.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, WARNING SYSTEMS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TEHRAN06825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: P840090-2320, P800023-1221
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197708109/aaaadotr.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ccf82150-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 STATE 177843, 77 STATE 179484
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1427138
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> GWR 20040428; <DBA CHANGED> GWR 20040505
Subject: AUDIENCE WITH SHAH RE AWACS
TAGS: MASS, IR, US, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMAD REZA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ccf82150-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009